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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY India

DATE: 25X1X6

SUBJECT Views Expressed by Indian Industrialist Tata

INFO. [REDACTED]

25X1A6a

DIST. 6 February 1947

PAGES 2

SUPPLEMENT

25X1X6 ORIGIN [REDACTED]

1. Tata recently returned from a trip to London where he talked with many English businessmen. He told them they should not have any concern for the future of "big business" in India as the British will remain in India for a long time and, although business will have its difficulties, the situation will remain in hand because of political controversies. Tata expressed some concern over the possible nationalization of airlines in India. He declared nationalization would ruin the airlines business, but felt that it would not actually take place as business interests could offer enough opposition to prevent nationalization.

2. With regard to Indian political leaders, Tata expressed the following opinions:

a. Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Pandit Nehru are the only two honest Congress leaders. Others, particularly Sardar Vallabhai, are rotten to the core. Gandhi is crooked, cynical, crazy and filled with fantastic ideas. Nehru's principal fault is that he is influenced by Gandhi's ideas.

b. Jai Prakash Narain is dangerous and there is a strong possibility that he could split the Congress Party because of his socialist views and his appeals to the masses.

3. Tata does not believe that the Muslim League will enter the Constituent Assembly. He states there can never be agreement between the two major parties. He feels that the Congress Party should grant Pakistan but even if they did, Pakistan would be unworkable because of the financial resources and the state of railway communications. Another factor making Pakistan an unworkable solution is the mixed population in the villages. Even though villagers live in peace, the differences in religion, ideals, customs, etc. could be easily stirred up and the idea of Pakistan will not die even if Jinnah does. The bitterest enemy of Pakistan in the Congress Party is Patel.

The Labor Party of Great Britain has done a great service to India by being sincere in their efforts to secure Indian independence. This was not, however, done from altruistic motives, but because the leaders of the Labor Party lack experience and knowledge of India. Discontinuance of British propaganda

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has been one of the greatest services performed by the Labor Party for India. Tata believes that if the conservatives return to power in England, India would not have a chance for freedom.

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